

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-18 and 22-27 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A core holder in which a core is carried in the use of a core splitter comprising a trough in which a liquid bath will, in use, be contained, a core support device for holding a core in position during a cutting operation, the core support device being located within the trough, and a cutting head to which a cutter may be attached and which can be moved along the trough to cut the core along one or more radial planes into two or more parts, the core holder being of polygonal section and dimensioned to hold the core firmly, the core holder having a slot at its upper end through which the cutter can enter the core holder to cut the core.

20. (Previously Presented) A core holder as claimed in claim 19, wherein the core holder is provided at a lower end with slots through which cuttings and other detritus formed during the cutting operation can pass into the trough.

21. (Previously Presented) A core holder as claimed in claim 19, wherein the core holder is of hexagonal section.

22.-27. (Cancelled)